

Amendments to Claims

The following list of claims replaces all prior claims previously submitted.

1. (Currently Amended) An animal feeder comprising:

a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end, wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door ~~with a hinged lid for opening and closing off the opening of the access door, the hinged lid having at least one recess lid protrusion which rests against the cover when the hinged lid is in the closed position to enable the hinged lid to be breathable, and wherein the feeding end of the feed hopper has a protective cage;~~

an upwardly extending lip placed around at least a portion of the perimeter of the access door opening;

a lid having open and closed positions to open and close off the access door opening, respectively;

an edge member joined to the edge of the lid to extend around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in its closed position, the edge member having a gap formed therein so that the lip extends above the gap when the lid is in its closed position;

a protective cage proximate to the feeding end of the hopper;

at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed hopper; and

a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.

2 -5 (Previously cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel, and wherein the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position.

7. (Original) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.
8. (Original) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.
- 9 – 21 (Previously Cancelled)
22. (Currently Amended) An animal feeder comprising:
a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end,
wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door opening, an upwardly extending lip placed around a portion of the access door opening, and with a
~~breathable~~ lid for opening and closing off the ~~opening of the~~ access door opening,
and wherein the feeding end has at least one feeding tube,
a platform attached to the feed hopper,
a ladder attached to the platform,
at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed
hopper, and
a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.
23. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the protective cage encloses the feeding end.
24. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the feeder is welded together to provide a single, unitary structure.
25. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the feeder is welded together to provide a single, unitary structure.

26. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel.
27. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.
28. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.
29. (Currently Amended) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the lid ~~is a hinged lid~~ having at least one lid protrusion which rests against the cover when the hinged incorporates an edge member having a gap therein, wherein the edge member extends around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in the closed position, thereby permitting the lid to be breathable and to form a protective barrier for the access door opening.
30. (Currently Amended) An animal feeder comprising:
- a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end, wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door;
 - an upwardly extending lip placed around at least a portion of the perimeter of the access door opening;
 - a lid having open and closed positions to open and close off the access door opening, respectively;
 - an edge member joined to the edge of the lid to extend around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in its closed position, the edge member having a gap formed therein so that the lip extends above the gap when the lid is in its closed position; wherein the feeding end of the feed hopper has a protective cage;

~~a platform attached to the feed hopper,~~

~~a ladder attached to the platform,~~

at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed hopper; and

a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel, and wherein the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position..

35. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.

36. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.